

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated March 7, 2005, the examiner rejected claims 22, 23, 26 - 29 and 33 as unpatentable under 35 USC 103(a) over Braus et al in view of Wegner et al and Runtan et al; rejected claim 25 as unpatentable under 35 USC 103(a) over Braus et al in view of Wegner et al, Runton et al and Stiff et al; rejected claims 30 and 31 as unpatentable under 35 USC 103(a) over Braus et al in view of Wegner et al, Runtan et al and Board, Jr., and rejected claim 32 as unpatentable under 35 USC 103(a) over Braus et al, in view of Wegner et al, Runton et al and Sumiyoshi et al.

Applicants did not agree with these rejections and accordingly noted an appeal on June 7, 2005.

After further considering the claims now pending, it was decided to more clearly define the invention over the art of record. Accordingly, claim 22 has been amended so that it is clear that each layer of the stack includes fluorine plastic and short fibers that uniquely oriented. In conjunction with this amendment, new claim 43 has been added which recites that the layers do not move relative to each other in the axial direction. See, Fig. 2.

It has already been noted, and is here repeated that the cited references do not teach a stack with the construction claimed including the fiber orientation.

The examiner is urged to reconsider the noted rejections in view of the claims as clarified and to indicate that claims 22 - 33 and 43 are allowed.

Serial No.: 09/270,673
Group Art Unit: 1772
Examiner: M. Miggins

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Felix J. D'Amoroso', written in a cursive style.

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October 7, 2005

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